

His Excellency being desirous to take all possible care
of Trade and the Shipping now in the Province upon
this Dangerous Circumstance of an impending war lays
Before the Board a Letter from Mr. Michael Perry an
Eminent Merchant in London dated the 12th of Jan^r
1701 & two others the one from Captain Thomas Whar-
ton & the other from Capt. John Hyde of as late dates

Which said Letters give Acc^t of a good Convoy
intended to fetch home the Virginia & Maryland Ships
which Convoy was to sail the first of March last but in
Regard a vessel arrived the last week which sailed from
England the tenth of March aforesaid & gave account
that he was not certainly assured when the said Convoy
might be expected thereupon & in respect of the various
Opinions of the said Mr. Perry Capt. Hyde & Captain
Wharton his Excellency was pleased to lay before the Board
his Majesty's Royal Instructions relating to the Stopping
& Embarguing of Ships in this Province

1st You are hereby directed to take care that in time
of War no ships do come from Maryland but in Fleets
or at such time as shall be notified from hence for their
meeting of Convoys & in case of other dangers you are to
Expect Directions from whence what precautions shall
be necessary for their security

Which being duly considered & that his Excellency
has never received any Advice instructions or directions
either from his Majesty's Secy of State the right Hon^{ble}
the Lords of Trade and Plantations or Lords of the Ad-
miralty what measures should be at this time taken
nor any interruption of the said Convoy other than by